GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4180
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Benefit of EPFO in Jharkhand
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Employees covered under Employees" Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) are getting proper benefit of Provident Fund, family pension and deposit linked Insurance Schemes in Jharkhand;
(b)if so, the details thereof;
(c)whether the Government is aware of the problems/difficulties being faced by the employees working in various organisations and public sector undertakings in Jharkhand;
(d)if so, the details thereof along with the remedial steps taken/being taken in this regard;
(e)whether the Government has received complaints of irregularities committed by EPFO in Jharkhand during the last three years and the current year; and
(f)if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): All benefits which are envisaged under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder are made available to all employees covered under the Act including in the State of Jharkhand. Efforts are also made for:

(i) timely settlement of Provident Fund, Pension and Deposit Linked-Insurance Scheme claims: and

(ii) prompt action for coverage of establishments as well as members to bring them under the ambit of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) whenever any such establishment comes to the notice of the EPFO.
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(c) & (d): Issues faced by members have been received by EPFO through representations and letters from various quarters from time to time. To address these issues, a number of steps have been taken, including:

(i) Proceedings under Section 7A of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 are initiated against the defaulter establishment.

(ii) Enforcement Officers are deputed for survey of such establishments who have not extended PF benefits to the employees.

(iii) EPFO have been collecting the details of employees i.e., Aadhar Number, Bank details for allotment of Universal Account Number (UAN)/Know your customer (KYC) so that the employees get benefits of the Act in seamless and hassle-free manner.

(iv) EPFO Organizes seminars for employers as well as employees from time to time to dessiminate information about their rights, obligations and duties as well as on how benefits of technology can be availed by them.

(v) A regular forum NIDHI APKE DWAR is held on 10th of every month at Regional Office as well as Sub-Regional Offices to address and resolve issues faced by employees and employers.

(vi) An online grievance redressal system (EPFiGMS) and Facilitation Centers have been opened to address members' grievances at Regional & Sub-Regional Offices. Efforts are made to resolve the grievances within 20 days.

(e) & (f): There are no reports of EPFO working against the interests of workers in the country, including the State of Jharkhand. Whenever any complaint of irregularities is noticed appropriate action is initiated as per rules by EPFO. In 2015-16 one case of fraudulent withdrawal of Rs. 88,400/- from PF account of Shri Indradev Yadav was noticed, which has been since recovered. An FIR has been lodged with the police.

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